







These are five styles of the many that are to be 69 cents for choice. The prettiest styles are not illustrated-because but few of them are here and we don't want to invite late callers to say-"You never had them.'



9324

Gowns with a history-they have just arrived from Scranton, Pa., where is one of D. E. Sicher's factories. The building was lately condemned and we get its contents. There are 9324 gowns. The inducement for us to purchase such vast quantities is summed up in the bargains we offer you.

> 1513 Gowns at 39e instead of 50c each. 1263 Gowns at 49c instead of 68c each. 2011 Gowns at 69c instead of \$1.2) each. 961) Gowns at 79c instead of \$1.48 each, 1837 Gowns at 98c instead of \$1,85 each.

And now let us remind you that all these gowns are made of best muslins and cambrics, with washable lace and embroidery trimmings. Those at 98c are beautified with ribbons-the bargain of a lifetime for us and you. Distribution commences tomorrow at 8 a. m. on first floor.









These last two gowns are 39c, the three above are 49c for choice. In all there are 3811 gowns at 39c and 49c for choice-not one that did not cost more than these prices to produce. Many styles, all sizes.



OTHER BARGAINS THE PALAIS ROYAL'S CASH BUSINESS MAKES POSSIBLE

Bargain 1

750 for 1,000 boxes, each containing 6 pairs 31cm s English Tan and Past Black Half Hose, with and without white feet. 75 cents is half price—because such quality taff lose self for 25 cents a pair everywhere. First floor.

Bargain 10.

290 for choice of an importer's samples, including all the New Style Straw Hats for Spring wear. New Shorthack Saidest, Turbans, and large shapes. These bats are worth, and generally edling, or 50c to \$1.59.

Bargain 2.

\$1.00 for five pairs or 21c for one pair Ladies' 25c quality 'Onyx' Black Hose, with double soles and high spliced heels. Choice of plain and ribbed. Only 13c pair for Children's and Boys' Hose of same quality.

Bargain 11.

Bargain 12.

Bargain 3.

50c for Ladies' 98c. quality "Onella" Combination Suits Note that the vest buttons across instead of down the front, and that the pants fit like a giove, assuring unusual comfort, and stockings adusted with ease and smoothness.

| | C per bunch for choice of nearly 716. yard for the Fashionable Ba-tiste Insertion Laces, worth up to 50c, yard; reads like an exaggera-tion. The explanation We secured the import-er's last pieces of various patterns, which he was alixious to be rid of. a thousand bunches of fine Roses, Violets, and other flowers, made to reinii at various prices up to 50c. You may have lound of those really wonderful bar-gains. Hurry-they'll soon be but a memory. First floor.

Bargain 4.

25c sard for choice of several thousand yards All wool Spring lires Goods—the quality of fabries sold at 39c, rard and appearance of 88c goods. Best Limings 9c, instead of 12c yard. Second floor

Bargain 13.

\$8.98 for 'necessing, making and fitting Silp Covers to ordinary 5-sec-Smite of Furniture not requiring over 11 yards of goods—just to keep our worknen busy during the few dull days prior to the season's opening.

Bargain 5.

680 yard for job lots of 21-inch filack. Saun Duchesse, Hack Taffeta Sik, Black Grossgrainand Satinfile coles and Glace and Plain Taffetas in spring colors. The actual values rrespecto \$1 yard. Fleeting bargains. Second floor.

Bargain 14.

Instead of 250 for Openine Shades in all solors, size 1x2 yards. Pitted with spring rollers, etc. Only 38c for incouring, miking and hanging best Sector Holland Shudes. \$1.98 for catside Window Awnings.

39c for Jetted Yokes, Collars and Revers, imported to retail at \$1 and up. These carnitures can be easily attached to costume already made, and improve its eppearance many dollars worth. First floor.

Bargain 15.

Bargain 6.

49c yard for 62-inch timen Table bannask, in new 1897 lesigns. Quality guaranteed width 50c yard. \$1.45, instead of \$1.75 d zen for the 22-in-in Napkins to match. Worthy the notice of tatel and baarding-house proprietors.

Bargain 7.

for choice of Dress
Findings and Notions that will full the
long table in main asie
on first floor. Think of
12 yards good Skirt
Binding and one dozen
Best French Horn Bones
for 5 cents 1,000 other
articles.
First floor.

Bargain 16.

456 for half dozen Decorated China Tea Cups and Saucers, 33cfor half-dozen Plates to match; 10c for Sugar howis; 10c for Gream Pitchers; 25a for Trappots; 8c for Stop Bowls, Only \$2.18 for tet of 52 pieces. Basement.

Bargain 8.

39c for better than the best 50-cent Corsets ever produced. Made of superior could, with side steels graceruly tapering, giving the appearance of the long wast now desirable. Sizes, 18 to 35; in styles for all figures. First floor.

Bargain 17.

for 72-inch Duck Bureau Scarfs, stamped in tecantific co-signs for you to suffice. And only 25- decen for "Helias," the new em-habiting material in all the art shades. It's better than silk, works better, looks better. 2d floor.

Bargain 9.

IGC of 1,211 pieces
All-Salk Ribbons, worth
25c and 38c vard They
come in Taffela, Moire,
Ottoman, Gauxe, in
Stripes, fancies and plain
colors, 3 1-2 to 4 1-2
inches wide. Best bargains of the season.
First floor.

Bargain 18.

\$3.69 for Baby Carringes; qual any previously sold at \$5. They are 1897 designs, with upholstered winker body, light but strong thanning gear and adjusting pursion. Best of all—they do not look like a cheap carriage.

THE PALAIS ROYAL

A. LISNER

G AND ELEVENTH STS.



In one sense, the late occupant of the White House, was connected with more clubs than any other man in Washington, Maj. Moore excepted. During his reign there were about thirty around the Presi-stential pulsee, and it is needless to say that they were policemen's clubs. Everybody is pleased to witness the absence of such club life around the premises in these days, and to see the worthy hend of the antion w. ing down the Avenue like other people. He is welcome to share my window, which is the highest compliment the Autocrav can pay to ambassador, prince or President.

A good, hearty man like Mr. McKinley must enjoy a roast quite as much as his predecessor did a "stake." It, therefore is not surprising that he should have smiled upon the invitation of the Gridicon Club to foregather with that genially satanic institution at its next monthly symposium Doubtless he may attend with trepidation of ordinary mortals. Even the persecuting Gridicon is kindly to the truly great; and Presidential roasts are not apt

I am afraid that this antending and graciousness to one club of "literary fellers" is not to be taken as evidence that we shall be able to make the Executive a regular habitue of the Diplomacy and Department. This is too had, because a Presi dent in intrinsically a great swell, and as a matter of principle it would be appropriate that he should associate with others who are so, also intrinsically and some extrandeally. Really, there is much that he could learn in that kind of company. A man in his position naturally is surrounded by satellites and flatterers. If he could escape them occasionally and mix with men whose social counts he becomes by force of official position, it would do him good and give him views of life and society that he never is likely to hear about otherwise. The whole atmosphere of the Diplomacy and Department is red elent of unaffected and decorous culture, simple though polished good nature, and its members to the last man wear halos of ingenuousness and blushing innocence, more lustrons than the monocle some of them affect in the course of be-

Arnid such pleasant and placid surrous fores a morarch might hong his crown upon the hat rack, drop his scepter into the undrelin stand, and Jaying aside the cares of state, enjoy interesting and instructive intercourse with the musculing part of the real and only genuine society of his Capital. Here even diplomacy smoothes its wankled smile, and all for netful of international ambitions, jealousies or designs, discusses borses, or polo or yachting, even pretty soubrettes with all the candor of an ingenne. Here also the wild chase of the anise seed bag, ir specdote or anticipation, stirs the blood of sportsmen; some with titles and others who would do anything to get one. Social News.

relaxations, like the noble American game of pool, or silent whist, not to mention the elevating pursuit of draw, are present to all their glory. With these and other services in abundance, I should fately on suchorite might be drauged from his nchorage. The "Glenlivet" alone should mpt a St. Anthony into rotting peculiar fiery affection associated with best name. Whether all such adhurements are to be offered in vain, in the case under consideration, remains to be seen. I fear me they will prove unavailing. Per haps the United Service or the Pterodactyl may have a better chance.

The impenetrability of your really typ-cal club man, the result of careful study and self-control after the best London models, was singularly illustrated the other night in New York. One of the old-timers and a social luminary left his ciub at the usual hour of closing the doors, after calling a cab. Hardly had he sat down in it before a terrific explosion wrecked the vehicle, shivered the windows in fragments and waked up all the people in the Windsor Hotel. A bottle filled with some explosive had been left or placed in the cab, and the club man's en-trance set it off. Now the strange part of the circumstance is that the mentitrousers were ripped and torn into sho strings, and the appendices of his evening enat blown over the house. Several mer chanced to be at hand and hastened to his assistance. Naturally they expecte to find him an unpleasant and disrupted As a matter of fact, he was not the worse for the experience

In view of the emergency the club rules were violated and the doors reopened and it was found that the victim's throat had all the function and capacity that eve The moral of the tale is palpable that I blush to add it. Every ne must see in it startling evidence that one of your real old dyed-in-the-wool club men, in respect of impenetrability, is too tough to blow up with nitro-glycerine.

QUEENS WHO HELP

Royal ladies as a rule show a vust amount of interest in helping the sick and unforunate in the hospitals, but the queen of Portagal is the only queen who has gone so far as studying medicine. Empress Frederick of Germany and the queen of Greece are es pecually noted for their interest in the un

Every charitable organization in the Hellenic kingdom owes its origin to Queen Oiga of Greece, and the great hospital in Athens is managed by her in person Not a day passes that her majesty, accompanied by one of her ladies-in-waiting, does no pass a couple of hours in the hospital, over eeing everything and visiting the sick specially those of foreign birth who may be lonesome and homesick at finding then elves in a strange country. As an instance of her kindness, she always keeps on hand supply of earth brought from Russia, for the purpose of sprinkling on the coffins of her countrymen who die in Greece.

Empress Frederick has likewise founded maintained and personally supervised many charitable institutions in Germany, devoting much of her time and money to sick children in memory of her husband, whose heart wa always warm toward infant sufferers. As an instance of his kindness in this respect it is told that when a ward for crippled children was opened in the hospital at Dusseldorf the emperor visited the place. One of the sick youngsters, childlike, noticed the ghitering decorations that covered the breast of the kniser, and the king took the little cripple up in his arms so that he might examine and admire the decorations, stars and emblems at his leisure.-Chicago

Stories of Old and New Washington Theaters



of the history of Washington theatricals that inauguration | and Booth. week means the largest attendance in all four years. An inconsiderable minerity of these in attendance

were residents of the city. The business were visitors from all parts of the country. Washington has several notably handso theaters. But aside from the distinction given them by the architect, the actist and the upholsterer, each of them has an his torical association which no other hand than time's and occasion's can give. Visitors are interested in posting themselves on the various memories which cluster about the Washington theaters. In large part, it is a portion of our national his tory, and it adds to the enjoyment of the patrons to know the small incidents that figurify the cureers of our temples of amuse

The Lafayette Square Opera House i our of the newest of our playhouses. It was built in 1895, and is now in its second year of life, yet there is attached to this house nore than any other a sentimental value which will distinguish it so long as it stands. as an historical landmark. The Lafacette is built on the site of the old Elaine ouse, which was torn down two year ago to make room for the new theater The property still belongs to the widow of the eminent stateman, and is leased for a term of ninety nine years to Mr. Al

The Blame bouse was one of the most famous of the old Washington mansions It stood back from the pavement at about house, which is next, to the north, and its north side was about on a line with the north wall of the theater. One who site at the middle and back of the orchestra finds himself at alout the spot where the tate banquets and receptions were given The tier of mezzanine boxes and the prom enade behind them is about on a level with the room in which James G. Blaine died.

The old house was built by Commodore Rodgers in the thirlies. Secretary of State William S. Seward resided here. In one of the rooms was shown dark stains on the floor, and it was related that they were nade by the blood of Lincoln's premier, when an attempt was made upon his life at the same time as upon his chief's. Atone time the house was a fashionable boarding place, and its roof sheltered such distin guished guests as Henry Clay, Andrew Jackson and James K. Polk.

During the recent season of German opera at the Lafayette, when young Walter Dam rosch conducted, the brilliant scene recalled another picture on the same spot, when the same person was the central figure. It was that of a spring morning several years ago. when a group of the nation's distinguished officials and social leaders were gathered in the old Blaine house to see Walter Dam rosch and Margaret Blaine plight their troth in marriage.

John W. Albaugh is the manager of the about the foyer of his theater. His pic | fainter and fainter. All my re ture is on the program, and will help you

HE estimate is rough- | to recognize him. Mr. All-ough has been ly made that at least | a Washington manager for seventeen years. washington manager for seventier a Washington manager for seventier a years100,000 people visited
Washington's seven
but by indicate a period to his period be was a stock actor in New York, and was the leading man
playhouses during the
week. It is a part
Ghost, Bassanio, De Mauprat and Mac-Duff to the Othelio, Hamlet, Shylock, Richicu and Macbeth of Kean, Forrest

> Mr. Albaugh opened the Grand Opera nue and Fifteenth street. This house has one significant piece of theatrical history attached to it. Here Mary Anderson appeared on the stage for the last time



MANAGER RAPLEY

lent in her récentry-published memoirs It was just twelve years ago this inau-guration week. Miss Anderson was tired and ill, but on Ash-Wednesday she did not doctor's advice and her manager's wishes, the went on. The play was Shakespeare 'The Winter's Pale."

"The theaten was crowded," says Miss

Anderson, in her "A Few Memoires."

Perdita danced as gayly as ever, but after the exertion fell fainting from ex haustion and was carried from the stage I was taken to my dressing-room, which in a few moments, was filled with people from the boxes. Recovering consciousness quickly, I begged them to clear the room Realizing then that I should probably not be able to act any more that season though there were many weeks yet un finished, I resolved at any cost to complete

the night's work. Harriedly putting or some color, I passed the group of people liscussing the incident, and before the doctor or my brother was aware of my surpose, ordered the curtain to be rung up and walked quickly onto the stage. As I did so I heard a loud hum, which I was afterwards told was a great burst of applause. The pastoral scene came to an nd. There was only one more act to go through. Doming the statue-like draperic of Hermione, I mounted the pedestal. M physician, formerly an officer in the Army, said that he had never, even in the midst of battle, felt so nervous, as when he saw the figure of Hermione sway ing on her pedestal up that long flight of You can see him any evening of torture to me, for I felt myself growing

descended from the pedestal and Wax able to speak all but the final line. This re-

down on my last appearance on the stage."

ing back to 1835, when was opened lie its at the theater, first of eight theaters erected on this sufficient dignity to suggest the tule. Mr. gave it as other mine than "The The ater."
Here Junius Booth has played, and J. K. It lasted several years, but, with a desting Hackett, Edwin Forrest, Fanny Elisler, lenny Lind, Matilda Heron, Lola Montes Charlotte Cushman, John E. Owens, E. L. avenport, Maggie Mitchell, Edwin Booth, J Wilkes Booth, Lotta, Charles Fechter, Dion Boucicault, Lester Wallack, Salvini, Met'ullough, Jon T. Raymond, Mary Anderson, Ben DeBar, and all the now po stars have made history in the Nacional Theater Charles Dickens and his wife saw a performance at the first National

W. W. Rapley, of the National, is the enior theatrical manager of Washington He has owned the site of his present theater for nearly thirty-five years, and has built upon it four theaters. There is a curious coincidence, pertinent at this time, in connection with the de-struction of the National Theaters. They took fire in 1845, 1857, 1873 and 1885, just about or a little previous to the me of the inauguration of Polk, Bachanan,

W. H. Rapley, son of W. W. Rapley, is he present manager of the house. mparatively foung man; was educated Hanover, Germany, and at West Point, hither he was appointed by Gen. Grant, to was a warm personal friend of his inther.

The most familiar face about the New National Theater is that of W. H. Romaine, the main doorkeeper. He has tern stubs from tickets at this theater year in and taker in Washington. Mr. Romaine is a capital reminiscencer and can tell stories of all the prominent men of the nation who have had to pass him to get "into the show." He knows the theatrical habits and preferences of all the Presidnets. Cabinet ministers, diplomats and Senators of his time and had a speaking acquaintance



with most of them. Every manager of prominence during the past twenty-five years has known him and his name is familiar to all the actors.

THE OLD BLAINE HOUSE.

For years old Mr. Buckingham held the lority among Washington doorkeepers. strength was put into that last effort. I He is stillliving, but retired from the Grand

mained unsatered, and the curtain rang dawnoning last appearance on the stage susmated by Wakes Boots. He like Romaine, is a treasury of reminiscences on the notables of Washington and their hab-

The first of the Washington theaters was Site on this spot every President since
Monroe has come for diversion to weep
or laugh with the varying suggestions of
Lyceum Theater. Though the entrance to the play. In an old play-bill, the program this house is on Pennsylvania avenue, the of the opening, I find that "Mr. Jefferson" theater really stands on the corner of C and was in the cast. Doubtless he was the father of our Joe Jefferson, who at that time was six years old, and scarcely of 1894. A stock company built it, and they to establish a Washington theatrical prece dent, was at length burned down. The cl der Carosi bought the site and th reconstructed the house in 1822, and named it the City Assembly Rooms. Here Carust neld his dancing academy, a swag ger institution in its day, but in 1857 the place was remodeled into what was called The Washington Theater.

A statesman never leaves' Washington



JOHN W. ALSAUGH

without memories of "Kernan's," as tid manager's Lyceum Theater is familiarly called. Though the class of catertainment is not considered distinguished in quality or elevated in tone, it is of the div and spicy order which appeals directly to the fellow "on a lark." Larks are not unknown to the officials, and it is no uncommon sightto see through smoke clouds of the little variety theater a row of classic featured legislators who have put aside the cares of state, the puzzles of finance and the enigmas of tariff to join in the Bo emian revelries of Kernan's and sip ale while brass-lunged soubreties shout songs across the footlights. Politics makes strange bed-fellows, but between the politicians who frequent Kernan's and the un-washed pickaniantes of the gallery there is a greater disparity than can be found in any other assembly in the country.

Perhaps men of such eminence as have frequented the higher-priced theaters have not been guests of the waudevillian, but every such one who has dered link his reputation to his caprice has drowned care house under the shadow of the big new

The little Bijou Theater, though now th home of fin de siecle farce comedy and melodrama, in which lungs less than brains are made the measure of ability, where virtue is always triumphant, though vil lainly scemingly would win; where the masses are made at home, and the price is made no object, was once the temple of the finest art. Its early history is of the same relative importance that the Lafavette, National and Columbia are to the contemporary drama. It has had

Opera House door several years ago. He many, many names and many policies, was doorkeeper at the old Ford's Opera but it has a history of which far from robbing it, time can only make mure

It was originally called the Oxford, and was a variety theater. It next became Traff's Opera House, and became the scene J. W. Wallack, Jr., and Edwin Forrest gave their last representations in this city on the stage of this theater, while its ourtain was rung down on the death scene of poor Reien Western, who expired the following day at the Kirkwood Home, a Local which stied on the corner of Tweith street and Pennsylvania avenue seems to have no especial for diness for Washugion theaters, for Wall's was horned and was rebuilt as Ford's Opera House. 19 afterward became Harris', and is now the

The Columbia is our newest playhouse. t has seen open but three months. One would naturally suppose that in so short a pened worth chronicling in the annals of he theater. This is not so. History is mude very fast in Washington. The Coumbia auditorium has held one of the most mique and distinguished audiences that has ever been gathered together. Last nonth John G. Stockhard, the lecturer, rented the house outright for one night, and gave his lecture on the "Yellowstone" to an invited audience. Frequently in Washington a Cabinet minister, a dipiomat, Senator or a Congressman is seen in the present at one time the Vice President, Speaker Reed, Chief Justice Fuller, five embers of the Cabinet, all the justices of the Supreme Court, many members of the Senate and the House, and many resiient officers of the Army and the Navy. It was a sight that could not be paralleled mywhere else than in the National Capital.

On the east side of Tenth street, be ween E and F, there stands a large building, with a conventional brick front. It is now occupied by the government, but was originally Ford's Theater. Here or spitated so many men and women to death floors, and here was fired by J. Wilkes Booth the shot which tilled Lincoln. Laura Keene was playing at Ford's Theater that night. The President was in his box early on the right of the stage, and the curtain had been up but a few minutes, when the issassin rushed across the stage and did his fatal deed. Lincoln was carried from hetheater to throld house across theatreet. which is now a nonseum of his relies, and in

this home he died the next morning. The hour of his death has been kept conpicuously before our eyes for some years, bough few have realized it. Have you ever noticed that the handspainted on the watch signs hung before jewelry stores siways point to twenty minutes after 8 o'clock? This was the historic minute, and the National Watchmakers' Association in concention decided to perpetuate it by having it the hour marked on all advertis

There was built very early in the century a theater on Louisiana avenue, east of Sixth street. It must have been very early, for a chronicler speaks of its reconstruction in 1828. In this theater were held two inauguration balls. During the war it became a variety hall and was called the Canterbury. Another theater was the Adelphi on Pennsylvania avenue, between Four and-

a-holf and Sixth streets.

Pittsburg, March 13.-The ventict in the Press libel suit returned to court this morning was guilty as indicted, in the case of the Press Publishing Company, and C. E. Locke, city editor, who was acting managing editor, the days the libel was published, and not guilty us to Thomas J. Keenan, editor, and Charles W. Huston,